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'SHE WANTS TO BE THE STAR'

Jane Lynch talks Sophie Lennon and highly anticipated return of 'The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel.' 2

TERRY BRADSHAW

Talks to Metro about his energetic stage show hitting Atlantic City this weekend. 6-7

REUNION

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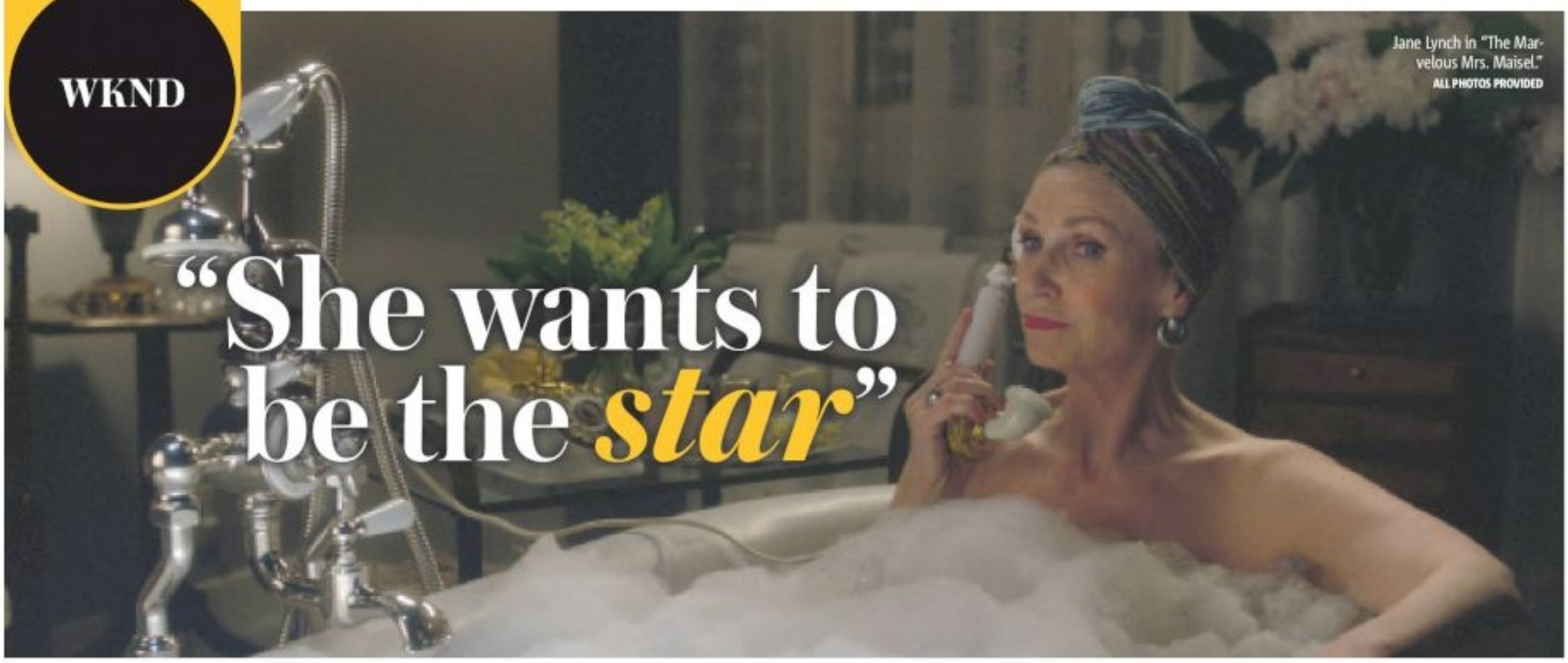

Jane Lynch in "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel."
ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

"She wants to be the *star*"

Jane Lynch talks the polarizing pull of Sophie Lennon in "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" Season 3.

MOLLY GIVEN

When Amazon Prime's original series "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" first premiered in 2017, audiences were immediately taken with the unique story, colorful characters and relatable tale of a woman who is breaking the mold in a male-dominated industry. The witty, smart and scintillating show is the brainchild of Hollywood power couple Daniel Palladino and Amy Sherman-Palladino, and there's a reason why the series has won over ten awards just this year alone.

The series starts out following Miriam "Midge" Maisel (Rachel Brosnahan) in what she thinks is a "perfect" life. She's got the husband, the kids, the comfy home and pretty clothes until it all comes crashing down one day with one all too familiar cliché — her husband leaves her for his secretary. In the midst of a breakdown of a marriage, Midge discovers a talent that she quite frankly has a natural edge for — stand-up comedy, and once the former housewife gets the attention of impassioned manager Susie (Alex Borstein) it's hard to slow the pair down. But of course, a lot of people do try.

One of the characters that does oppose Midge on her comedic journey is comedy superstar Sophie Lennon (Jane Lynch). When audiences first meet Sophie, she's outwardly a raunchy, self-deprecating comedian who is on the top of her comedy game and has made a lot of money doing so. On the inside (once you shed the fake fat suit), Sophie is actually an elitist Upper East Side resident who lives her life lavishly and lets her deep-rooted insecurities cloud her moral compass, especially when it comes to starry-eyed newcomer Midge. It's that exact polarizing pull in the character of Sophie Lennon that captivated Jane Lynch into taking on the role.

"The dichotomy of the character intrigued me — I basically get to play two different people," says Lynch. "But what did draw me in was the comic side, that was the first portion of the script that I read. I just fell in love with that, because I knew exactly what I was going to do and I could not wait to put on that fat suit."

Lynch is no stranger to the comedy game having numerous accolades from a plethora of shows and movies, but to prepare for the role of Sophie Lennon, Lynch dove a bit deeper to her roots and the comics she admired growing up.

"Phyllis Diller, Totie Fields, Joan Rivers — they were women who were gaudy and loud that I grew up watching on television. They were all very self-deprecating, and it was back in the day when a woman could only be in comedy if she made fun of herself and her looks and her unattractiveness to males and their inability to get a date. They did that with such grace and panache, and I remember them all very well as a kid and just loving them," adds Lynch.

The notion that women in comedy can only make it big if they make themselves "a gimmick" to men because they will "never take a real woman seriously" also plays a large role in the show. It's something that Sophie insists Midge takes on, and when the young comic refuses and then outs Sophie as a fraud to the world, tensions obviously arise. Couple in Sophie's burning insecurities and innate desire to break out as an actress, and you get a woman with a true career-driven vengeance.

"The insecurity manifests itself in her, but of course, it's always right there just below the surface," says Lynch. "She wants to be the star, she wants to be elevated and lifted above everybody else — that's her hustle. She wants to be held up as royalty. If she could, she would travel on a satin pillow all day long with her footmen carrying her. She always has her butler right by her, she never greets anybody at the door, she has them brought into her room and then she makes an entrance."

Sophie may want to launch Midge into a career-imploding abyss, but Lynch herself is actually pleased with the way the comedy world is going today. The actress still sees a long road ahead, but there has been growth since the timeframe of "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel."

"Stand-up is still almost completely male-dominated, there are some women stand-ups out there, but it's still very hard for a woman to break into," says Lynch. "But it is definitely the era of women in comedy in television for sure. A lot of it has to do with this generation of women who are right behind me who have a very calm entitlement to a seat at the table. There are all of these men as well who wouldn't think twice about hiring a woman — I think it's definitely gone leaps and bounds in terms of women in a position of power in television. A lot of that has to do with the number of platforms that there are, but I credit the guys as much as I credit the women, we're turning around a ship that has been going in one direction to go in another direction. It looks like we're going the right way now. I'm sure there will be bumps, and I'm sure there will be rough seas ahead, but we'll get through it all."

If the comedy world is a ship going in the right direction, Lynch is helping to steer the wheel in a big way, which is apparent after her Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series win this year for Sophie Lennon.

"It's just the greatest, I was handed a terrific opportunity, they supported me in every single way and I think one of the reasons the character has impact is because I'm used so conservatively. They know when to sprinkle a little of me in there," says Lynch. "I was just so thrilled to be included with that group of women [at the Emmys]. I mean Fiona Shaw, Maya Rudolph — it was really just a who's who of women in comedy."

So with the highly anticipated return of "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" Season 3 almost here, what can fans expect from Lynch's diabolical Sophie Lennon?

"She has manufactured for herself an opportunity for her dream to come true, and we'll just see how that turns out."

"The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" Season 3 drops Dec. 6 on Amazon Prime.

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Guests can make their own gingerbread creation at Davio's this Sunday. PROVIDED

GINGERBREAD WORKSHOP

This Sunday, Philadelphians can head to Davio's to partake in a merry holiday activity that is perfect for the whole family: a gingerbread workshop. The tasty workshop will be led by Davio's pastry chef Olisha Sealy, and Sealy will be helping all participants create their own personal masterpiece. Tickets include the materials for gingerbread house making and lunch. Guests are also encouraged to bring one unwrapped toy to help the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. **Dec. 8, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m., Davio's Philadelphia, 111 S 17th St., Philadelphia, $50-$65, davios.com**

Looking for some fun and unique things to do in Philly this weekend? We've got you covered.

HIGH STREET PIZZERIA POP-UP

The popular Old City hotspot is launching its monthly pop-up pizzeria series this weekend, and all Philadelphians are in for a treat. High Street will be transforming into a classic pizzeria decked out with checkered tablecloths and plenty of tasty pizza options highlighting some of their signature dishes including their famous Angry Crab Spaghetti. High Street will be offering natural wines not typically available by the glass. **Dec. 6, reservations available, High Street on Market, 308 Market St., highstreetonmarket.com**

HOLLY NIGHTS

Head to Pennsbury Manor this weekend for their annual holiday event inviting visitors to travel back in time to experience the sights and sounds of a true colonial Christmas. While there, guests can enjoy candlelit tours of the esteemed Manor, sit by yule log bonfires, enjoy the sounds of festive carolers and also join in on period craft demonstrations such as open-hearth cooking, blacksmithing and beer brewing. **Dec. 6, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m., Pennsbury Manor, 400 Pennsbury Memorial Rd, Morrisville, pennsburymanor.org**

SIPS & SELFIES WITH SANTA

The Shops at Liberty Place and Cradles to Crayons are inviting everyone to experience holiday cheer for a great cause every Saturday in December. Guests can nab a selfie with Kris Kringle himself for free, and also indulge in beer, other tasty non-alcoholic drinks and holiday cocktails such as a Peppermint Mojito and a spiced Cranberry Mule from the new pop-up Bourbon Lounge by Bluebird Distilling. At the end of the month, The Shops at Liberty Place will donate $1 for each selfie posted and tagged, to Cradles to Crayons. **Every Saturday in December, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., The Shops at Liberty Place, 1625 Chestnut St., shopsatliberty.com**

POP-UP BAKE SALE

Chef Jessie Prawlucki-Styer, co-owner and pastry chef of Fond and Philadelphia pastry chef Monica Glass have teamed up to host a pop-up bake sale featuring their most acclaimed pastries and baked goods this weekend and two weekends from now (Dec. 7 and Dec. 21). A few highlights include sourdough baguettes, crisp peppermint meringues, gluten-free rolls and much, much more. **Dec. 7 and 21, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Fond, 1537 S 11th St., fondphilly.com**

SANTA PAWS

The Kimpton Hotel Palomar's annual event is back and all Philadelphians and their furry friends are invited out to partake in the holiday fun. According to a release, pups of all breeds are welcome to visit Santa Paws in the hotel's living room for a professional photo and there will even be a holiday sweater bar for doggos to borrow from to ensure they look festive for their photo. Lulu's Rescue will also be on-site and will welcome any donations for their cause. **Dec. 7, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m., Kimpton Hotel Palomar, 117 S 17th St.,, hotelpalomarphiladelphia.com**

PARADE OF LIGHTS

This weekend head to the Independence Seaport Museum for their popular holiday event, the Parade of Lights. The event will be hosted by CBS3's Jan Carabeo, and will feature a parade of local working boats illuminated in holiday lights right on the Delaware River. The museum recommends viewing the extravaganza from their second-floor terrace, and warm seasonal beverages and food will also be available for all in the Holiday Hut. **Dec. 7, 5:30 p.m., Independence Seaport Museum, 211 S Columbus Blvd., phillyseaport.org**

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As we enter the season of giving, Metro asks that you donate to Tony's Metro Magic annual holiday toy drive to help underprivileged children in your community. You can donate by visiting metro.us/magic, clicking on the toy wishlist link of your choice and ordering via a secure payment system. Toys will then be distributed to local children in need.

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A life worth *singing* about

Terry Bradshaw talks energetic stage show, "The Terry Bradshaw Show." MOLLY GIVEN

Terry Bradshaw is a man with many talents. The former NFL quarterback has made quite an illustrious career for himself after leaving the football field acting in films, appearing on FOX as an analyst and now showcasing his musical talents. Bradshaw is well aware that audiences may not realize he can sing, and that's part of the fun with his 80-minute colorful extravaganza, "The Terry Bradshaw Show." The show, which has a residency in Las Vegas, follows Bradshaw's life from his early youthful days to his athletic career to the present day and everything in between. Bradshaw sat down with Metro to discuss his show, his untold musical talents and what he loves the most about performing onstage.

What first inspired you to create "The Terry Bradshaw Show?"

Years ago, I had someone come up to me who had heard me speak, and they told me that I should take my act to Vegas. I have always wanted to play Vegas, but I didn't want to just speak — I wanted to sing, people really don't know that about me. I was talking to my manager, he had discovered Bobby Darin and got Wayne Newton to Vegas, and I told him that I wanted to go through with putting a show together. He thought it'd be great, but when he asked what exactly I wanted to do, I said I don't know — maybe tell the story of my life? It's had so many ups and downs and just so many interesting things happen, so I wanted to create a script written for my life and then put it to song. We got to work with a guy named John Mack, a comedy writer, and I started telling my story to him – we spent probably two years putting this show together. We then hired David Goldsmith to write the songs along with the story of my life – all original songs, covering being just a dumb kid in high school, to me making my way to Louisiana Tech football, to getting injured and then retiring. That's how it all got started. We did take some time off, but now we brought it back. People might not really know why they are coming to see Terry Bradshaw. They don't know that I sing, and maybe when they leave they still won't think I can sing, who knows?

I honestly did not know that you sang either! How does it feel to have people finally know your

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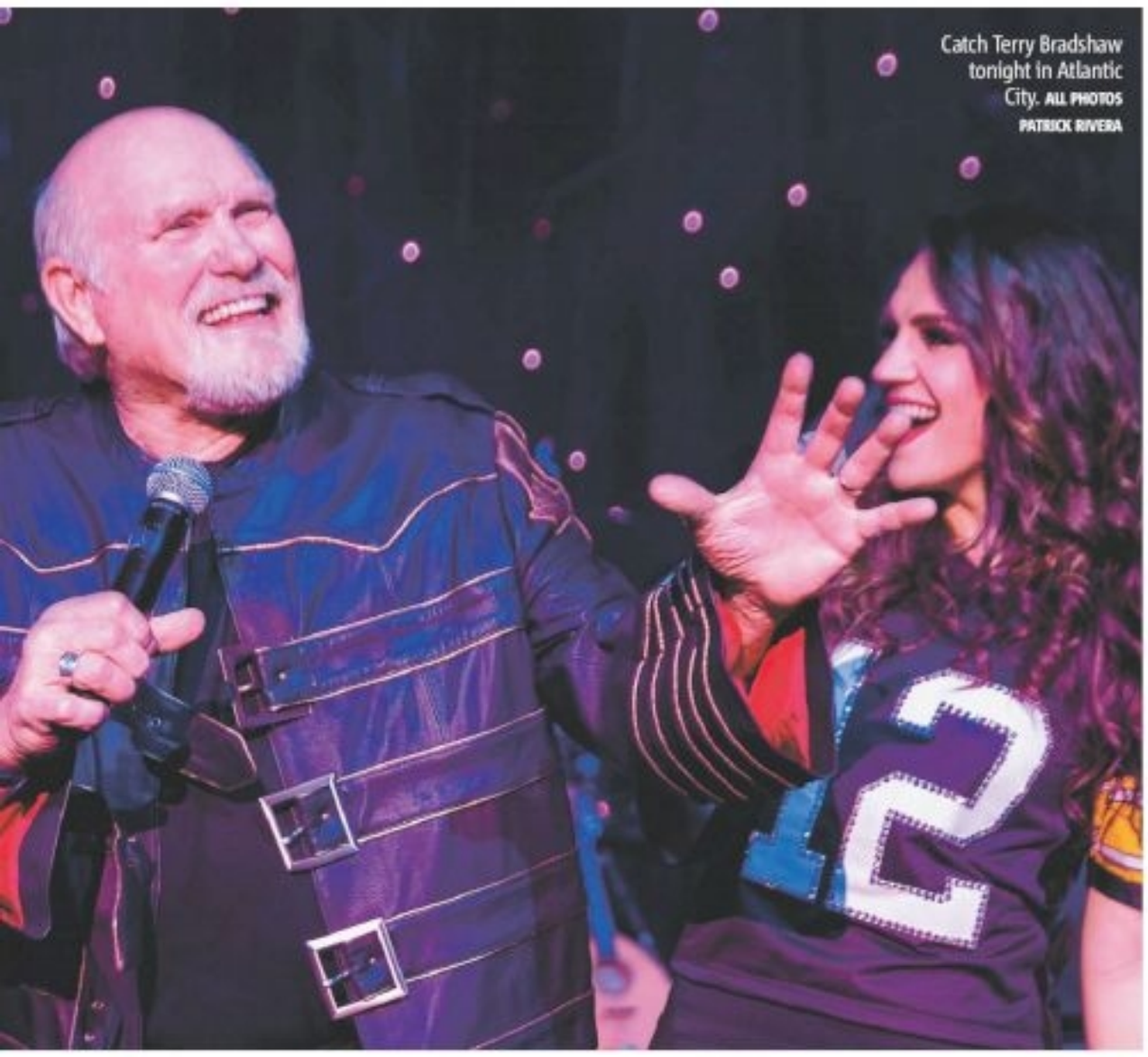

Catch Terry Bradshaw tonight in Atlantic City. ALL PHOTOS PATRICK RIVERA

musical talents? Any songs that stand out to you from your show?
We did have one drunk guy tell me that I stunk the joint up and he was mad that he came. So, I told him, why don't you leave? But overall, it does feel good to have people compliment my music, especially if they had no idea. One song I do love to sing in the end, it's not original but it's a great finale song — "What a Wonderful World." I added it in because I wanted a really beautiful ending to the show. I also enjoy a song that I did with Glen Campbell, "You Don't Know How Good You've Got It." It's about when I got hurt and couldn't play anymore, the lyrics and everything, it's all just really clever. But I've also got some fabulous backup singers for the show as well, gosh they are just so good. All of the original songs David wrote are also just so well written and fun to do. Personally, I would want to do away with the story and just focus on the songs, but MGM doesn't want me to do that — I'm not Cher and I don't have any hit songs or records so I guess I have to agree with them. It is my story that separates me from everybody else and makes it fun.

Since the show is about your life, are even your biggest fans going to learn more about you? How in-depth does the show go?
I think so. They think they know me from television — but you know what this may even confirm that they do actually know me. I'm a fun-loving guy who loves to entertain, loves to laugh, loves self-deprecating humor, and to me, the glass is always half full. I'm a one hundred percent positive human being, and my whole point in doing this show is to entertain and have people leave the show feeling good. The more I do the show, the better it gets and hopefully, I can do this for years and years.

What is your favorite aspect of performing on stage?
The smiles on the people's faces and seeing them have fun. That is what makes me feel good, to get out and start the show and see the crowds getting excited, people hollering, stomping their feet, applauding — it makes me feel really good. That's just an awesome feeling, to know that people are having so much fun, and that's why I'm there.

Catch Terry Bradshaw tonight at the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa at 8 p.m.

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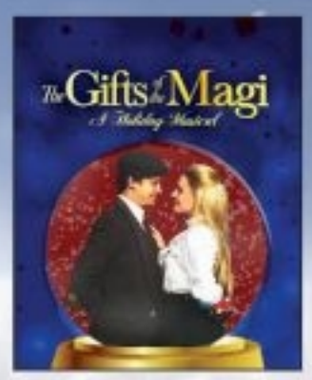

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It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

Christmas Village is bigger and better than ever this year.

MOLLY GIVEN

The City of Brotherly Love certainly lights up during the holiday season, and at the center of all of the seasonal joy is the ever-popular Christmas Village. Year after year, the German-style outdoor market has served as a focal point for Philadelphians and visitors alike with a plethora of colorful vendors and attractions, and this year is bigger and better than ever.

Christmas Village still includes plenty of old favorites: a delicious variety of vendors (including the return of the Raclette cheese sandwiches and traditional German food like Käsespätzle), an assortment of shopping opportunities, the Friday Lunch Concert Series from noon to 1 p.m., storytimes in collaboration with the Free Library of Philadelphia and other festive activities that Philadelphians have known to grow and love.

Also returning this year is the illuminated

Present presented by Bank of America located right in the center of Love Park. According to the release, The Present will have a few exciting upgrades: more lights, plus a dynamic color changing piping to the red ribbon and bow which will be fully interactive. Participants, after donating, can trigger a series of colors, chases and patterns that will race around the ribbon's edges and bring the present to life.

New for the 2019 season is an exclusive holiday beer that can only be found at Christmas Village. Philadelphians can sample the delightful brew and enjoy it at the outdoor seating area and the beer garden, "The Alm." New vendors include New Liberty Distillery, Really Reel Ginger, Nivas Collection, RD Shadez and the Philadelphia Eagles will make their debut at Christmas Village with their original Philadelphia Eagles Pro Shop. Philadelphians can also try new tasty treats including a prosciutto or

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salami option for the popular Swiss Raclette Cheese sandwiches, Pennsylvania-grown apple cider, Tarte Flambee and cinnamon rolls.

Philadelphians can finish their trip off with a Ferris wheel ride next to City Hall courtyard section of the Village, which is also brand new this year.

"We are thrilled to welcome back Christmas Village in Philadelphia at LOVE Park," said Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Commissioner Kathryn Ott Lovell in a release. "Christmas Village has grown into a must-do family tradition that brings together multiple generations. Each and every year, Christmas Village fills LOVE Park with holiday cheer, twinkling lights, fun attractions and high quality gift items. Christmas Village, together with Made in Philadelphia Holiday Market, also offers an outstanding opportunity for Philadelphia small businesses, bringing their local handmade arts and crafts to the largest audience in the region during the holidays. Follow the smell of gingerbread and look for the glowing lights of The Present. On behalf of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, we can't wait to see you in LOVE Park!"

Guests can check out all of the holiday happenings including wine and beer tastings, HoHo Happy Hour, school tours, German culture lessons, German American Weekend (complete with a beer stein holding competition, bratwurst eating contest and Christmas costume contest) , Make-A-Wish Weekend and more by visiting http://www.phila-christmas.com/

Christmas Village is open now through Dec. 24, daily market hours are Friday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

How does your child's sleep affect his/her health?

We want to hear your thoughts on how to help children get a good night's sleep and improve their overall health!

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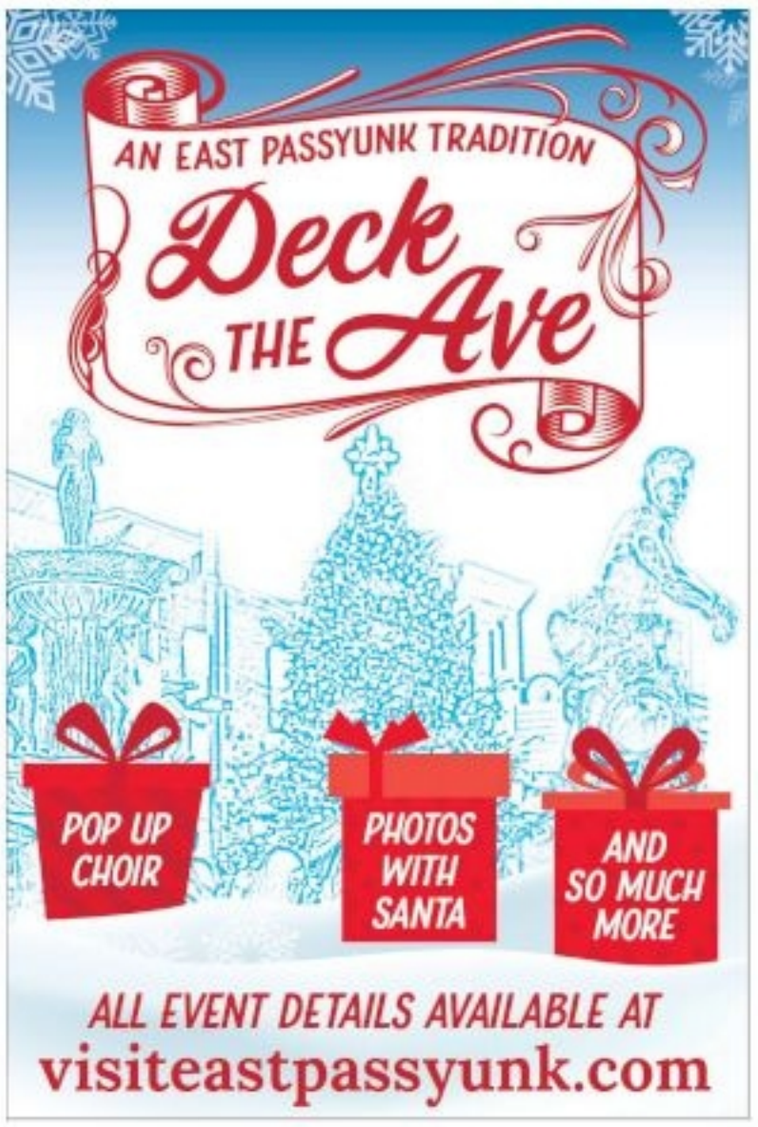

Warm up with wintry cocktails at these top Philly bars

7 spiced, sweet and piney drinks to try this month. MADELINE PRESLAND

The Spiced Gin Sour from Manatawny Still Works. PROVIDED

The beginning of winter makes it tempting to hibernate in your living room instead of heading out to the bar, especially when it's completely dark by happy hour. Luckily, bars throughout the city have special drink menus with seasonal flavors and hot mixers to help you warm up inside and out. Trade your cozy couch for a barstool to try these wintry drinks.

NECTAR AT LIBRARY BAR

Head to to the Rittenhouse Hotel for a luxurious treat in cocktail form. The Nectar is a smooth combination of Glenmorangie Nectar d'Or, a fruity aged Scotch that gets paired with vanilla, a spiced sugarcane liqueur and egg white. This drink is part of the Library Bar's trio of seasonal reserve cocktails. Bring a date or colleague to this bar to make a good impression. The Rittenhouse Hotel was voted one of the best hotels in the world by "Condé Nast Traveler" readers in 2019. *210 W Rittenhouse Sq., $24, rittenhousehotel.com*

SPICED GIN SOUR AT MANATAWNY STILL WORKS

This tasting room has a long list of craft cocktails made with the Pottstown-based distillery's own spirits. In addition to their tried and true classics, they have seasonal cocktails to help shake things up, including their Spiced Gin Sour. They combine their own Zimbro or Odd Fellows gin, lemon juice, egg white and a winter spiced syrup. The syrup contains popular mulling spices including

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1603 E Passyunk Ave, $13, manatawnystillworks.com

WHEN DARKNESS AWAITS AT PROHIBITION TAPROOM

This isn't your granddad's Irish coffee. If you aren't a fan of hot toddies, this boozy pick-me-up packs a flavorful punch with a lot of pep. The coffee cocktail has Tullamore Dew whiskey, cardamom and a stout syrup.
501 N 13th St., $12, prohibitiontaproom.com

SHOW ME THE MONEY AT GOOD DOG BAR

With its dark wood interior and two cozy lounges upstairs, the drink list at Good Dog Bar is a welcome sight on a wintry night. Pear and hints of rosemary and clove add a mix of festive flavors to complement the Beefeater gin base in Show Me the Money.
224 S 15th St., $11, gooddogbar.com

TINSEL'S SNOWGLOBE AT TINSEL

ISTOCK

Nothing says Christmas like this perfectly over-the-top holiday pop-up bar opening soon in Center City. Their entire menu is decked out with familiar holiday favorites like cranberry, peppermint and spiked eggnog. They have a few options for drinks served in cups you can take with you. Don't miss their Snowglobe cocktail made with Grey Goose La Vanille vodka, tapioca pearls and white cranberry juice. Try to recreate the cocktail at home in your souvenir glass, or create your own spiked snowglobe.
116 S 12 St., $20, facebook.com/TinselPhilly

THE CATHEDRAL GROUP AT THE GOOD KING TAVERN

This mezcal-based drink combines somewhat unusual ingredients that were inspired by cool weather hikes and warm nights by the fire. Creme de Cacao, banana liqueur and walnut bitters combine complex flavors with a refreshing twist. "I took reference from a classic Manhattan variation for this drink," said manager and head bartender Patrick Bruning. "The smokiness from the mezcal brings out campfire flavors alongside the bracing, woodsy earthy notes of the Branca Menta."
614 S 7th St., $13, thegoodkingtavern.com

P+P AT SOUTHGATE

This cocktail highlights a staple fall and winter flavor in Japan, Korea and China: the persimmon. To make this cocktail, the Southgate team soaks the fruit in Overholt Rye whiskey to mix with Lillet wine apertif, plum bitters and sweet vermouth. P+P stands for persimmon and plum, or two Philadelphia landmarks: Plays & Players or Pen and Pencil.
1801 Lombard St., $12, southgatephilly.com

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Bagged leaf drop-off collection tips:
- Leaves must be placed in large brown biodegradable paper bags.
- Never mix trash or other recyclables with bagged leaves.

Mechanical collection area tips:
- Have leaves ready for collection by 7am Monday for each week of mechanical collection.
- If possible, move your vehicle to an off-street location on your scheduled collection day.

For drop-off details and collection schedules, call 311 or visit
PHILADELPHIASTREETS.COM/LEAVES

Drop-off Locations:
- Pennway St. & Cottman Ave. (Jardel Rec.)
- 15th St. & Bigler St.
- 43rd St. & Powelton Ave.
- 4800 Wayne Ave. (Happy Hollow Rec. Ctr.)
- 54th St. & Woodbine Ave.
- 7901 Ridgeway St. (Fox Chase Rec.)
- American St. & Thompson St.
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READER WRITE-INS:

'HEY, CAN YOU GRAB ME ONE?'

I have one of those friends who LOVES to mooch drinks off of people in bars. It seems like every time you go up to get a drink he asks, "Hey, can you grab me one?" and then never pays you back. He always says he'll get the next one, but it NEVER happens. It's so frustrating!

Beth, *Metro New York reader*

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Aries Channel your energy into something useful. Keeping busy will eliminate tension and stress. Do something that will encourage you to relax. Focus on the positive.

Taurus Make plans for some relaxation with friends or family. A discussion will open your eyes to new possibilities. A relationship will be enhanced if you share your feelings.

Gemini Charm will help you persuade others to see things your way. Choose your words carefully and offer reasonable incentives. Make sure your motives are honorable.

Cancer Choose the people and projects you take on carefully. The right combination will lead to victory; the wrong choice could lead to an emotional meltdown. Choose peace over chaos.

Leo Keep moving, as less talk and more action will be to your benefit. A life-altering incident will help you head in a better direction. Listen to the small voice within you.

Virgo Focus forward and don't downplay what you want to pursue. Be bold, lighten up and go after what you want. A positive change will help you tie up loose ends.

Libra Lots can happen in a day. Talk to people you trust, get the answers and stay in control. Relationships will take a positive turn if you are honest about your feelings.

Scorpio Accomplish what you set out to do. Actions will lead to advancement. Your dedication and determination will be what counts and what will get you ahead.

Sagittarius Focus on people in need of help. Get involved in what everyone else is doing. Physical activity will be good for your soul. If you are very responsive, you will be greatly rewarded.

Capricorn Rethink your plan, as there may be more going on than you realize. Observe what everyone else is doing and how they respond to events. Gather facts, make a decision and take action.

Aquarius Discussions, travel and gathering information are encouraged. Waiting for people to come to you will not be productive. Be the one to make the first move. Control instead of being controlled.

Pisces Take care of your responsibilities first. A change you make will turn out better than anticipated. Review your finances and make a long overdue adjustment. EUGENIA LAST

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NEWS

Pelosi says Democrats to pursue articles of impeachment against Trump

President accused of abuse of power and obstruction of justice.

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) discusses the status of the impeachment inquiry into U.S. President Donald Trump on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S. on December 5, 2019. REUTERS

House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi said on Thursday she has directed a House committee to draft articles of impeachment against U.S. President Donald Trump, a historic step that sets up a fight over whether to oust him from office.

Speaking in somber tones in a televised statement, Pelosi accused Trump of abusing his power and alluded to Britain's King George III, the monarch against whom the American colonies rebelled in forming the United States in 1776, saying in the United States "the people are the king."

"Our democracy is what is at stake. The president leaves us no choice but to act because he is trying to corrupt, once again, the election for his own benefit. The president has engaged in abuse of power, undermining our national security and jeopardizing the integrity of our elections," Pelosi said.

At the heart of the impeachment proceedings in the Democratic-led House is the Republican president's request that Ukraine launch an investigation targeting Joe Biden. The former vice president is a top contender for the Democratic nomination to face Trump in the November 2020 U.S. presidential election.

"Sadly, but with confidence and humility, with allegiance to our founders and our heart full of love for America, today I am asking our chairman to proceed with articles of impeachment," Pelosi said.

Pelosi was referring to Jerrold Nadler, whose House Judiciary Committee has the responsibility of drawing up the formal charges that would later be voted upon by the full House. Two people knowledgeable about the process told Reuters the panel could draw up and recommend the articles of impeachment to the full House as early as Dec. 12.

The charges could include abuse of power, bribery, obstruction of Congress and obstruction of justice.

If the House passes the articles of impeachment as expected, that would lead to a trial in the Senate on whether to convict Trump and remove him from office. Trump's fellow Republicans control the Senate and have shown little support for his removal.

> **"The good thing is that the Republicans have NEVER been more united. We will win!"**
>
> Donald Trump

Trump reacted to Pelosi's announcement on Twitter by writing, "The Do Nothing, Radical Left Democrats have just announced that they are going to seek to Impeach me over NOTHING."

"The good thing is that the Republicans have NEVER been more united. We will win!" Trump said.

Pelosi acted after receiving overwhelming support in a meeting with House Democrats on Wednesday night, a source familiar with the meeting said.

On Wednesday, the Judiciary Committee held a hearing in which three constitutional law experts called by Democratic lawmakers said Trump had engaged in conduct that represents impeachable offenses under the Constitution. A fourth expert called by Republicans called the impeachment inquiry slipshod and rushed.

Democrats have accused Trump of abusing his power by withholding $391 million in security aid to Ukraine – a vulnerable U.S. ally facing Russian aggression – as leverage to pressure Kiev into conducting investigations politically beneficial to Trump.

REUTERS

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DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED

U.S. cracks down on Russian 'Evil Corp' hackers after $100 million spree

$5 million bounty offered for information leading to arrest of Maksim Yakubets.

U.S. authorities on Thursday took aim at a Russian cybercriminal group known as Evil Corp, indicting its Lamborghini-driving alleged leader and ordering asset freezes against 17 of his associates over a digital crime spree that has netted more than $100 million from companies across the world.

The action against Evil Corp., described by officials as one of the most damaging criminal organizations on the internet, comes with a $5 million bounty issued for information leading to the arrest of its alleged leader, Maksim Yakubets.

British authorities described the 32-year-old Yakubets as a supercar-lover who customized his Lamborghini license plate to read "Thief" in Russian and ran his operation from the basements of Moscow cafes.

"Yakubets is a true 21st century criminal," U.S. Assistant Attorney General Brian Benczkowski said. "He's earned his place on the FBI's list of the world's most wanted cyber criminals."

BY THE FBI
MAKSIM VIKTOROVICH YAKUBETS
Conspiracy; Conspiracy to Commit Fraud; Wire Fraud; Bank Fraud;
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Maksim Yakubets is seen on a wanted poster distributed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) released in Washington, U.S on December 5, 2019. REUTERS

Evil Corp is alleged to be behind an ever-evolving family of malicious software known Dridex, which has bedeviled banks and businesses since it first appeared in 2011. The malware works by hacking into banks and businesses and making rogue financial transfers that are eventually funneled back to the hackers. It has since also branched out into ransomware.

Underlining alleged links between cybercriminals and the Russian state, U.S. Treasury officials said Yakubets worked on the side for Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB), its domestic intelligence agency, and stole classified material on Moscow's behalf. One senior U.S. Treasury official said he had even applied to the FSB for a license last year to handle secret documents.

Even so, the FBI's Bowdich said the Russian government had been "helpful to a point" in their request to track the hackers down. Bowdich and other U.S. officials declined to comment on whether either of the two men had links to the Russian government. The FSB did not immediately reply to a Reuters request for comment sent after hours in Russia on Thursday.

Dridex targeted smaller businesses and organizations that lacked the sophisticated cyberdefenses of larger organizations, U.S. officials said.

Though the indictments only mentioned incidents in Nebraska and Pennsylvania, victims spanned the United States – including a dairy company in Ohio, a luggage company in New Mexico and a religious order in Nebraska, FBI Deputy Director David Bowdich told a news conference.

Losses totaled $70 million in the United States alone, officials said. REUTERS

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The Chiefs and Patriots have been two of the better teams in the NFL this season against the spread as Kansas City is 7-5-0 while New England is also 7-5-0.

Andy Reid's bunch finally seems to be back on track while Bill Belichick's crew is slumping late in the regular season for the second straight year.

The Pats are extremely vulnerable right now with the offense stuck in rut, and if you have a quarterback that can move around in the pocket a bit, and a running game that poses as a legitimate threat, you can solve the Patriots' previously unsolvable defense as well.

Several teams have cracked the code when it comes to the Patriots run defense this season (Buffalo's Frank Gore, Cleveland's Nick Chubb, the Ravens' Mark Ingram), but this past Sunday night against the Texans was the first time all season we've seen a quarterback really shred the Pats' secondary through the air.

Deshaun Watson completed an impressive 18-of-25 passes for 234 yards, three touchdowns and zero interceptions. He finished the game with a sparkling 140.7 passer rating.

ALL GETTY IMAGES

Watson spread the ball around nicely, as DeAndre Hopkins, Kenny Stills and Duke Johnson all finished the game with more than 50 yards receiving.

Stephon Gilmore had another strong game for the Patriots but he wasn't exactly perfect in this one as he allowed a pair of catches for 37 yards on Houston's fourth touchdown drive.

The Patriots linebackers again looked slow, as well, as Johnson (a running back) seemed like he was open all game.

The Chiefs have looked much better in their past two games after losing at Tennessee on Nov. 10, 35-32. That said, Patrick Mahomes hasn't been as explosive as he threw for just 182 yards against the Chargers in Week 11 (a 24-17 Kansas City win) and for only 175 yards this past Sunday against the Raiders (a 40-9 KC victory).

The Patriots beat Mahomes and the Chiefs twice last season, once in the regular season (43-40) and once in the playoffs (37-31 in OT).

Expect another close one in Foxboro on Sunday afternoon but for the Patriots to cover the -3 spread. New England needs this game to maintain its position as a top two seed in the AFC, and it also hasn't lost a home game since Week 4 of the 2017 season.

The play: Patriots -3

TWEET OF THE DAY

geek boy ethan
@EthanGSN

Eli Manning's parting gift to the Giants might be losing out, getting Shurmur fired, getting Gettleman fired, and securing the first overall pick.

Best bets

NFL Week 14 betting: 49ers at Saints

First place in the NFC will be on the line in Sunday afternoon's clash between the 49ers and the Saints at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome.

Bet this game now at **MetroBet.us/Sugar** by using promo code: **METROBET** and you'll receive a free $50 VISA gift card as well as up to $250 in free bonus cash.

The smart money may be on the Saints as nominal home favorites, but the best bet in this game is in the totals market.

The 49ers bring the No. 1 ranked defense by yards allowed per play into New Orleans. San Fran's stoppers are somewhat susceptible to the run (22nd by yards allowed per game), but the Saints don't seem capable of taking advantage of that with their Alvin Kamara-led run game that's rated 17th by yards per game.

The Niners have held the Packers and Ravens to 28 combined points in consecutive weeks, so there's little doubt that they own one of the league's best defenses.

The Saints' stoppers are not too shabby either, as they're eighth in yards allowed per play and 12th in scoring. Preventing the run is where they excel (third in yards allowed per game), which spells trouble for the 49ers' rush-reliant offense.

The play: 49ers v. Saints Under

ROBERT CRISCOLA

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NFL WEEK 14

NEW YORK GIANTS AT PHILADELPHIA EAGLES -9.5

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MIAMI DOLPHINS AT NEW YORK JETS -5

SAN FRAN 49ERS AT NEW ORLEANS SAINTS -2.5

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS AT NE PATRIOTS -3

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS -0.5 AT LA RAMS

PITTSBURGH STEELERS -3 AT ARIZONA CARDINALS

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SPORTS

Eagles bring back Marken Michel

In need of WR help, the Eagles brought back the CFL star.

JOVAN ALFORD
letters@metro.us

Marken Michel is back with the Eagles after two seasons in Canada. GETTY IMAGES

After surprisingly releasing former fourth-round pick wide receiver Mack Hollins earlier this week, the Philadelphia Eagles decided to bring back a familiar face to their wide receiver room.

The Eagles announced on Thursday they signed wide receiver Marken Michel to the practice squad. The 25-year-old wideout is the third player that the Eagles have signed to the practice squad in the last couple of days (DT Kevin Wilkins, CB Tremon Smith).

Michel is now the third wide receiver on the team's practice squad, joining Marcus Green and Robert Davis. Earlier this week, Howard Balzer reported that Michel and five other players worked out for Philadelphia.

Michel, who is the older brother of New England Patriots running back Sony Michel, spent the last two seasons in the CFL playing for the Calgary Stampeders.

As a rookie in 2017, Michel made an immediate impact for the Stampeders, racking up 41 receptions for 780 yards (19.0 YPC avg) and three touchdowns.

With those types of statistics, the former UMass Minuteman was nominated for Most Outstanding Rookie in the CFL's West Division.

Furthermore, in his second season with Calgary, Michel had 31 receptions for 435 yards (14.0 YPC avg) and five touchdowns. After his CFL rookie contract came to an end last season, Michel signed a futures deal with the Eagles.

The wide receiver immediately made his presence known during the NFL preseason with an eye-opening performance Week 1 against the Tennessee Titans.

In that game, Michel had four receptions for 117 yards, including a 75-yard touchdown reception.

With that in mind and his overall performance, there was a belief that Michel could make Philadelphia's 53-man roster. But that was not the case as Hollins ultimately claimed the fifth wide receiver spot.

Heading into their Week 14 matchup against the New York Giants, the Eagles only have four wide receivers on their active roster: Alshon Jeffery, Nelson Agholor, Greg Ward Jr. and J.J. Arcega-Whiteside.

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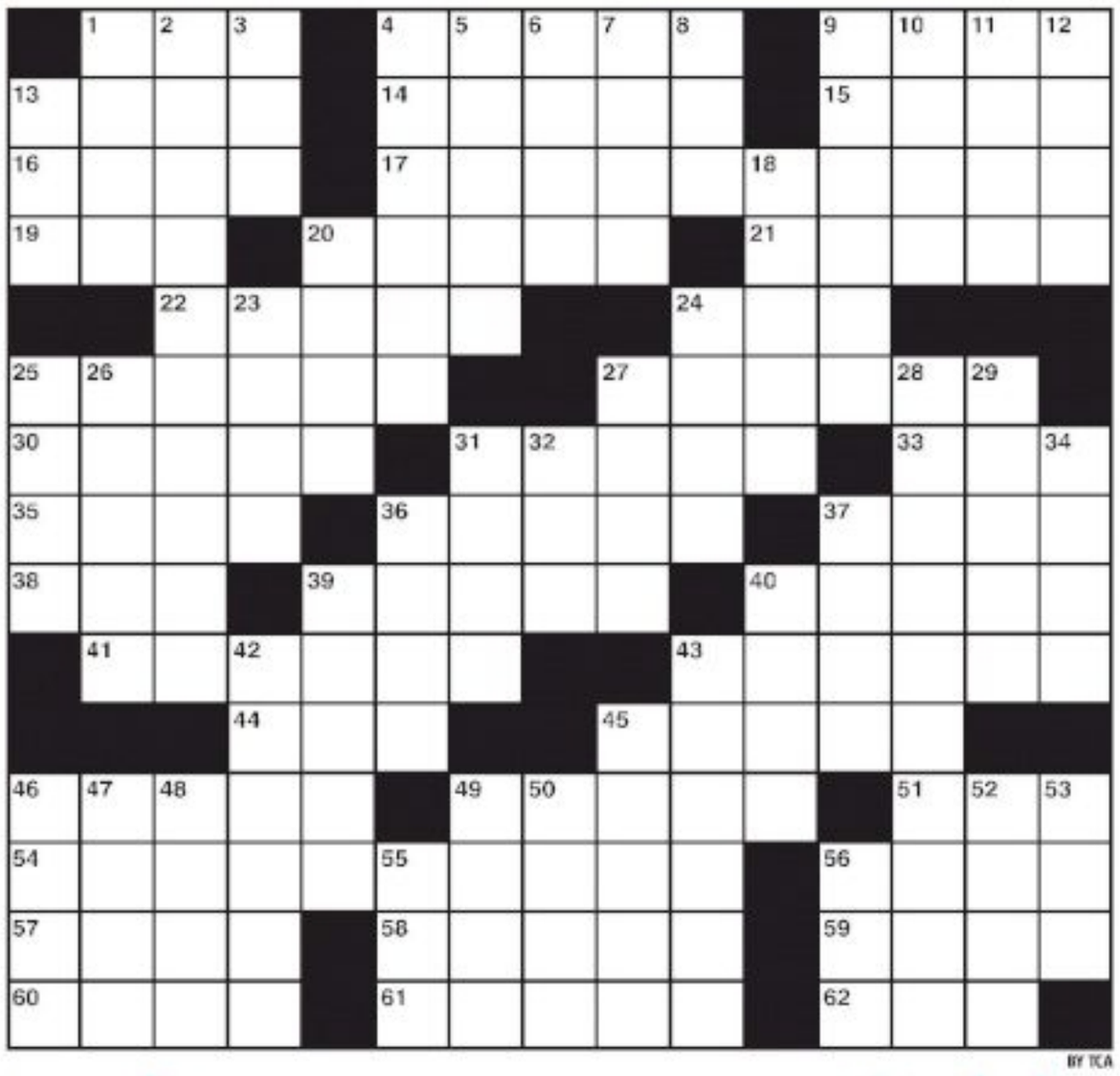

BY TCA

ACROSS

1 Brooch
4 Prayer closings
9 Exchange
13 Saltwater fish
14 __ with; supports verbally
15 Tried and __; reliable
16 Uncertain
17 Crawling like a snake
19 Org. for Jaguars or Bengals
20 Autry & others
21 Hand protectors
22 Fill with bliss
24 Last month's calendar pg.
25 Proverbial sayings
27 St. __; Vatican basilica
30 Put __; shelve
31 Kelly or Slick
33 Leprechaun
35 Unruly hordes
36 Crack sealant
37 On the __ of the moment
38 Everyone
39 Rounded edges
40 Provide shelter for
41 Double-dealing
43 Deplore
44 Phone inventor's initials
45 Winger or Messing
46 Higher than
49 Shout of approval
51 Best Buy purchases, perhaps
54 Breathe new life into
56 Car from Italy
57 Encounter
58 "See you __!"
59 Like pink cheeks
60 Nimble
61 Gets rid of
62 __ of a kind; unique thing

DOWN

1 "__, the Magic Dragon"
2 Unbending
3 Anti's vote
4 Valuables
5 Winnie-the-Pooh's creator
6 Actress Falco
7 Brooklyn hoopsters
8 Request for silence
9 Try hard
10 Court order
11 Meghan, to Prince Louis
12 Small dowels
13 Element whose symbol is Sn
18 Shed crocodile tears
20 Canasta or Old Maid
23 Can tops
24 Pain in the __; pest
25 __ Cass; late singer Elliot
26 Not __ as; younger than
27 Compadres
28 Good name
29 Partially melted snow
31 Trot or canter
32 Bacardi specialty
34 Liberate
36 New parents' purchase
37 Zoom aloft
39 Sire children
40 Vagabond
42 Place for a filling
43 Crowbars
45 In a stupor
46 Bear __; carry a gun
47 Horn toot
48 Think __; contemplate
49 Feeling __; in a funk
50 Religious ceremony
52 Bud holder
53 Animal enclosure
55 Jolson & Pacino
56 To & __; pendulum's motion

metro.us/wordsearch

E	L	P	P	A	E	N	I	P	U
K	C	E	R	W	N	I	A	R	T
P	R	O	D	U	C	E	R	U	D
S	U	P	E	R	B	A	D	U	C
F	K	L	Y	D	F	U	N	N	Y
K	F	E	D	R	E	T	I	R	W
E	Y	U	E	X	P	R	E	S	S
Z	J	A	M	G	I	R	L	S	L
Z	K	W	O	T	A	P	A	K	U
S	A	N	C	H	O	R	M	A	N

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G	N	D	C
E	A	O	R
E	F	C	N
E	B	D	E

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						4	3	1
4		2				8		
	3		4		5			2
9					4		1	
			1	2	3			
	1		8					6
3			2		7		5	
		9				7		3
2	4	7						

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L	I	M	A	■	A	L	T	O	S	■	T	R	U	E
E	M	M	Y	■	P	I	O	N	E	E	R	I	N	G
A	S	A	■	B	R	E	W	■	■	R	I	O	T	S
■	■	T	W	A	I	N	■	■	N	O	V	■	■	■
S	H	E	E	N	S	■	■	M	I	S	E	R	S	■
C	O	R	E	D	■	G	R	A	C	E	■	E	A	T
A	V	I	D	■	P	E	E	V	E	■	M	A	G	I
M	E	A	■	S	E	E	D	S	■	C	E	S	A	R
■	L	L	A	M	A	S	■	■	C	H	O	O	S	E
■	■	■	D	I	R	■	■	B	L	O	W	N	■	■
S	C	O	O	T	■	■	C	L	A	P	■	A	C	D
H	O	R	R	E	N	D	O	U	S	■	I	B	L	E
O	V	E	N	■	B	A	S	E	S	■	S	L	U	M
P	E	G	S	■	A	N	T	S	Y	■	T	E	E	S

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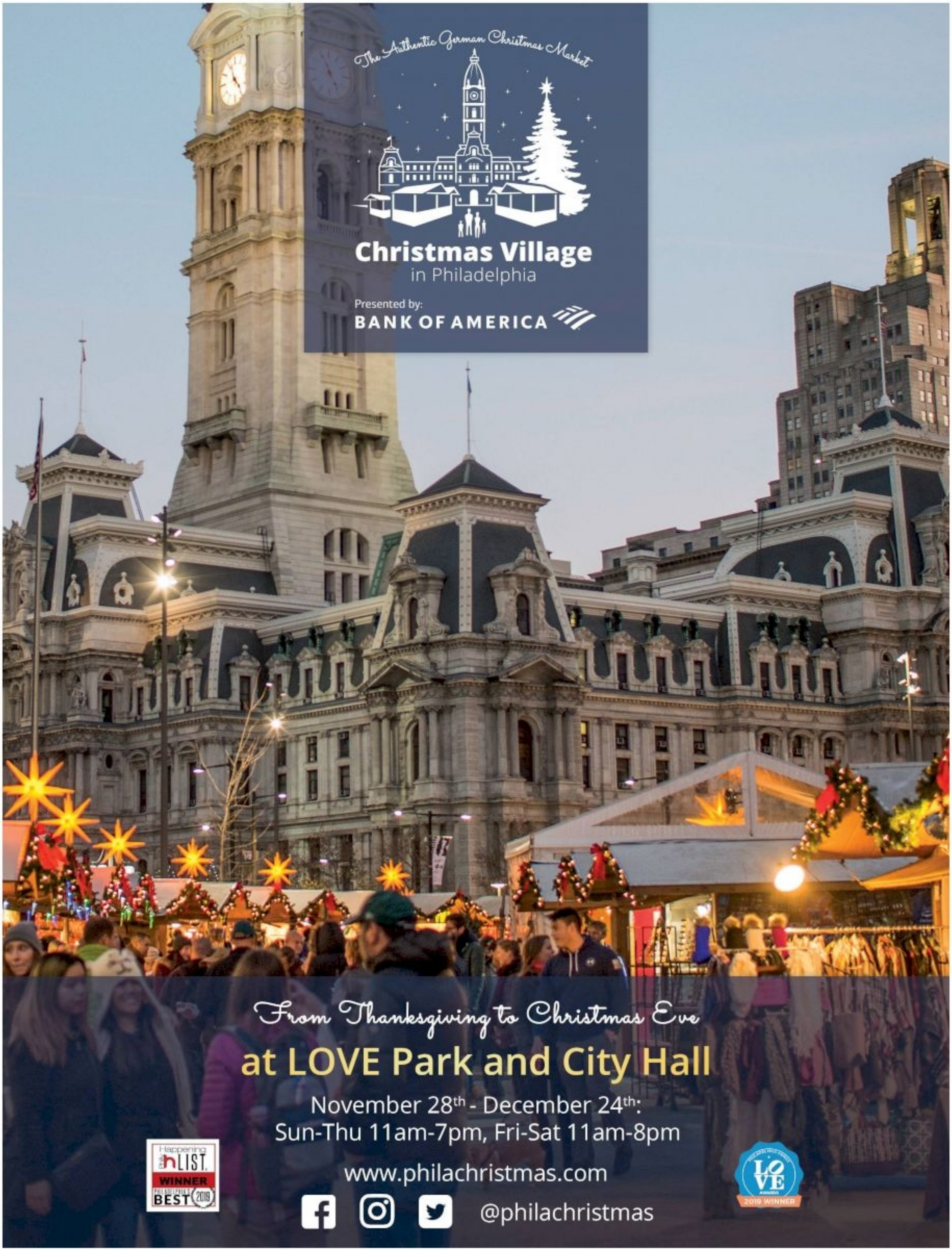
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Christmas Village in Philadelphia

The authentic German Christmas Market returns bigger than ever to LOVE Park and City Hall with Ferris Wheel and weekday program

Christmas Village in Philadelphia presented by Bank of America will once again return to LOVE Park for its 12th season. From Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 28th) through Christmas Eve (Tuesday, December 24th), with a Preview Weekend on November 23rd and 24th, Christmas Village will transform LOVE Park, the City Hall Courtyard as well as the North Broad side of City Hall into an authentic open-air German Christmas market.

Holiday sights and sounds featuring thousands of twinkling lights, festive Christmas decorations, live music and themed weekends are waiting to bring you all the Christmas-time feels. This year, Christmas Village is truly bigger than ever as the market will expand to North Broad outside of City Hall featuring two big additions: A 65-foot-tall Ferris Wheel and the Holiday Train. In addition, look for the return of the 27-foot-tall walk-through holiday gift box "The Present", presented by Bank of America, illuminating the center of LOVE Park.

Shoppers will find high-quality, international and local gifts and are invited to warm up with a glass of mulled wine, cider or hot chocolate while enjoying the great variety of European food and drinks.

Admission is free, with food, drink and shopping pay as you go.

Opening Hours

Christmas Village is open until December 24th 2019:

Sunday – Thursday:	11am – 7pm
Friday – Saturday:	11am – 8pm
Thanksgiving Day & Christmas Eve:	9am – 5pm

Themed Weekends

Christkind Ceremony:	Dec. 1st
Mascot Weekend:	Dec. 7th/8th
German American Weekend:	Dec. 14th/15th
Make-A-Wish® Weekend:	Dec. 21st/22nd

Weekday Specials

Beer Tastings
Christmas Village is bringing back its beer tastings in cooperation with local Brewery Techne this year.

Thursdays: 5pm - 7pm

Wine Tastings
The wine tastings in cooperation with Chaddsford Winery – a crowd favorite in years past – will return as well.

Mondays + Tuesdays: 5pm - 7pm

Lunch Specials
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Mondays – Fridays: 11am – 1pm

HoHo Happy Hour
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Wednesdays: 4pm - 7pm

Friday Lunch Concert Series
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Fridays: 12pm - 1pm

Story Time
Story reading for kids in cooperation with the Free Library

Mondays: 11:30am – 12:30pm

Furry Friend Fridays
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Spread the LOVE: @philachristmas | #philachristmas

Picture by Steve Dampman

Don‘t miss

Ferris Wheel

Enjoy a bird’s eye view of all the holiday festivities from the top of the brand-new 65-foot-tall Christmas Village Ferris Wheel that will debut this year.

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Holiday Train

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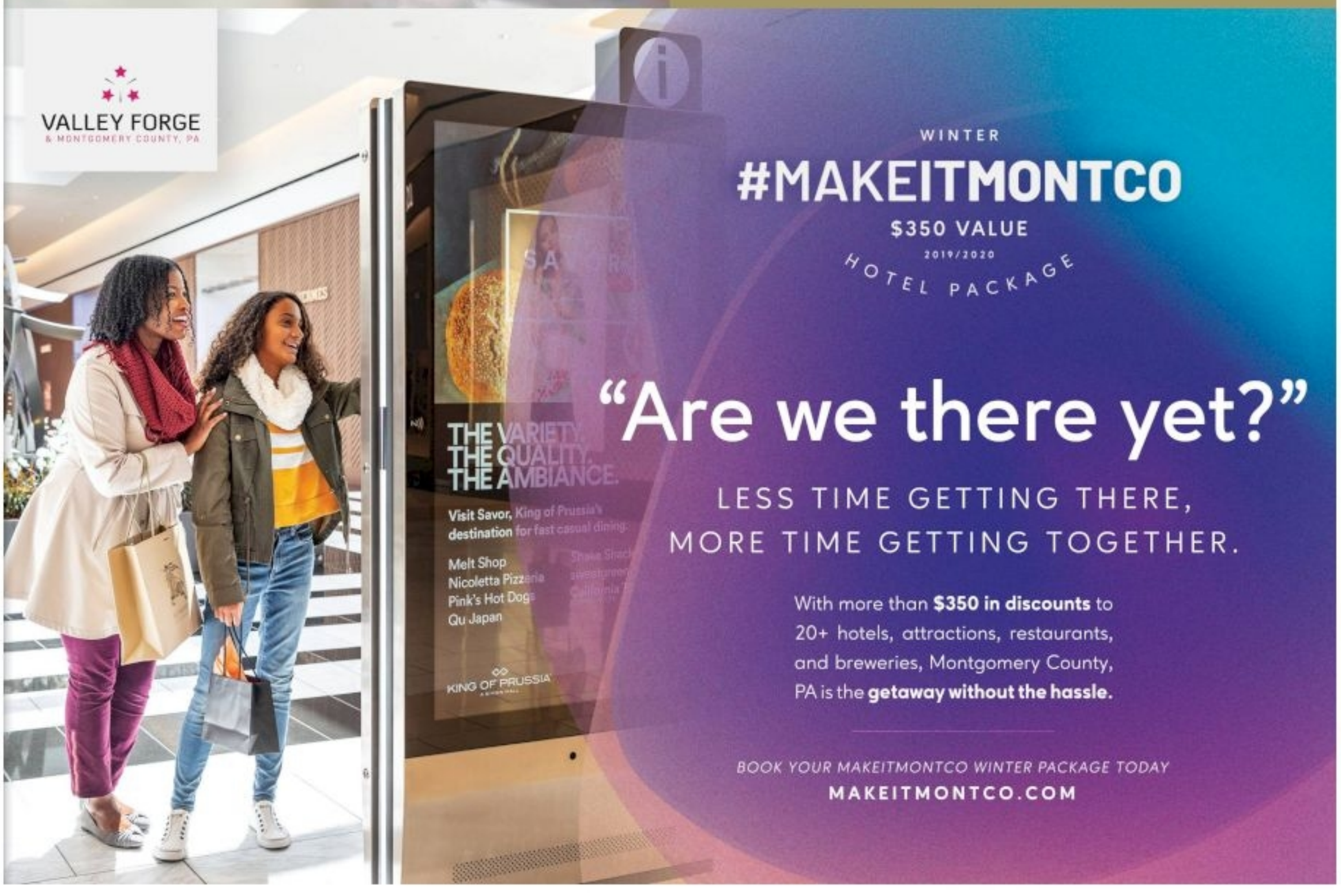

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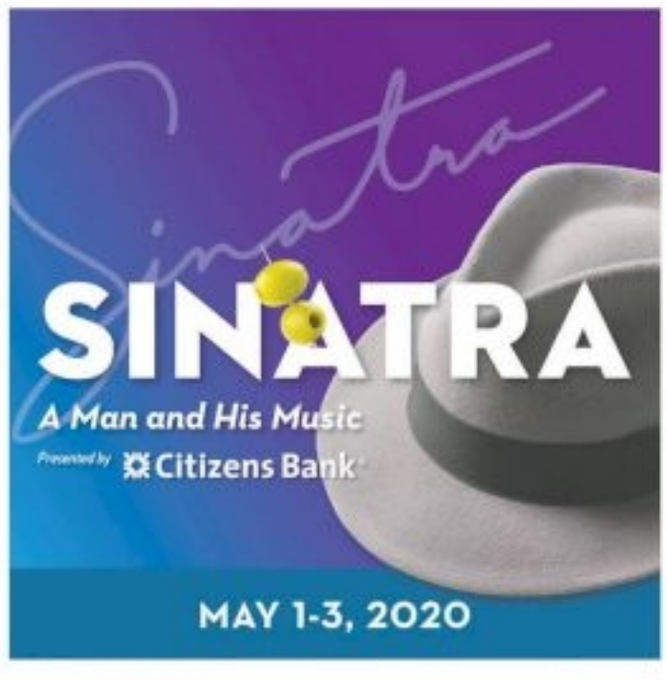

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